

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MUSCAT 00789 130500Z

11
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W
----- 038048
R 130353Z JUL 75
FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1293
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 789

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MASS, MARR, MU, US
SUBJECT: OMAN REQUEST FOR NAVAL TRAINING ASSISTANCE

1. DURING COURSE OF JULY 10 CALL ON DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER SAYYID FAHAR, HE RATHER FORMALLY STATED THAT HE HAD BEEN DIRECTED BY SULTAN QABOOS TO RAISE WITH EMBASSY OMANI INTEREST IN ARRANGING FOR TRAINING IN US OF OMANI NAVY PERSONNEL. (COMMANDER OF SON EARLIER HAD ALERTED EMBASSY OF MAY 14 MEETING IN WHICH THIS MATTER DISCUSSED.) FAHAR THEN CALLED IN HIS BRITISH EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT, WHO REFERRED TO TYPED NOTES AND OUTLINED REQUEST.

2. OMANIS PROPOSE TO SEND 10 POTENTIAL OFFICERS TO US, HOPEFULLY BY END OF 1975. ALTHOUGH EDUCATIONAL LEVEL OF PARTICIPANTS ADMITTEDLY WOULD BE LOW (GENERALLY ONLY PRIMARY SCHOOL), APTITUDES WOULD BE HIGH ENOUGH FOR THEM TO UNDERTAKE YEAR'S INTENSIVE COURSE IN ENGLISH, FOLLOWING WHICH THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN "BASIC MATH" AND "NAVALIZATION" COURSES SUCH AS COASTAL NAVIGATION, ETC. SON WOULD CONTEMPLATE PROGRAM LASTING AS LONG AS 2 YEARS IN US.

3. AT SAME TIME, WOULD LIKE TO SEND UP TO 20 ENLISTED MEN FOR TRAINING. THESE WOULD PARTICIPATE JOINTLY WITH OFFICER CANDIDATES IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE COURSES. THEREAFTER, THEY WOULD PURSUE TRAINING IN SUCH AREAS AS DIESEL MECHANICS, COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MUSCAT 00789 130500Z

4. FAHAR STATED THAT OMANGOV HOPED THAT USG COULD "HELP" BY GRANTING THIS TRAINING AT MINIMAL EXPENSE TO SON. HOWEVER, OMANGOV WILLING TO CONTRIBUTE TO COST OF PROGRAM. CHARGE AND COL. HOBBS (NEA/RA WHO PARTICIPATED IN DISCUSSIONS) OUTLINED FACT THAT NO MAP PRESENTLY EXISTS FOR OMAN AND THAT PROGRAM WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE EVEN IF FINANCING AVAILABLE, SINCE IT MIGHT REQUIRE TAILORING A COURSE SPECIFICALLY FOR OMANI NEEDS; ON OTHER HAND, IT THEORETICALLY MIGHT BE POSSIBLE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF SOME OF PLANNING AND PREPARATION GOING INTO CURRENT USG PROGRAM FOR SAUDI NAVY. (AT THIS POINT, SAYYID FAHAR INTERRUPTED TO STATE THAT OMANGOV NOT INTERESTED IN "SECOND-HAND" INSTRUCTION; WE TOLD HIM THAT IF THIS IDEA PROVED FEASIBLE, IT WOULD BE FOR TRAINING IN US BY AMERICANS.)

5. FINALLY, FAHAR STATED THAT EMBASSY SHORTLY WILL RECEIVE FONOFFICE NOTE OUTLINING PROPOSAL AND REQUESTING US ASSISTANCE.

6. DURING SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION WITH CSAF AND DEPUTY COMMANDER OF SON, IT WAS ESTABLISHED THAT OBJECTIVE IN FIRST INSTANCE WOULD BE TO PRODUCE TECHNICALLY PREPARED EQUIVALENT OF MIDSHIPMAN AT END OF STAY IN US. (OMANIS RECOGNIZE AND ACCEPT FACT OF VERY GREAT EDUCATIONAL GAP WHICH WOULD PERSIST.) IN REGARD TO ENLISTED TECHNICIANS, VENUE OF SPECIALIZATION TRAINING COULD BE DETERMINED AFTER COMPLETION OF ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TRAINING, ALTHOUGH CSAF STRONGLY IN FAVOR OF LEAVING PARTICIPANTS MORE OR LESS IN PLACE ONCE THEY HAD ACCULTURATED TO A PARTICULAR ENVIRONMENT.

7. COMMENT: BOTH IN DISCUSSION WITH FAHAR AND SUBSEQUENTLY WITH CSAF AND DEPUTY COMMANDER OF SON WE TOOK DEFINITELY PESSIMISTIC VIEW CONCERNING DIFFICULTIES IN ARRANGING SUCH PROGRAM. AT SAME TIME, WE DID AGREE TO EXPLORE SUBJECT WITH WASHINGTON. SINCE GENERAL TOPIC RAISED DURING SULTAN QABOOS' JANUARY VISIT TO WASHINGTON, AND SINCE SECRETARY OFFERED UNSPECIFIED NAVAL TRAINING (SEE NEA/ARP JANUARY 13 MEMCON WITH MR. TONY REEVE OF UK EMBASSY), OMANIS PROBABLY ASSUME, WITH SOME LOGIC, THAT USG WILL BE RESPONSIVE. WE WISH TO REVIEW MATTER WITH AMBASSADOR BEFORE MAKING FIRM EMBASSY RECOMMENDATION.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 MUSCAT 00789 130500Z

8. ACTION REQUESTED: PENDING RECEIPT OF FONOFF NOTE, WE ARE UNDER NO PRESSURE TO REPLY TO THIS OMANI INITIATIVE. THEREAFTER, THEY PRESUMABLY WILL EXPECT REASONABLY QUICK (AND, INDEED, POSITIVE) RESPONSE. ACCORDINGLY, SUGGEST THAT DEPARTMENT UNDERTAKE NECESSARY STUDY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE TIMELY RESPONSE.

ZWEIFEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY TRAINING, NAVAL FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MUSCAT00789
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750242-0215
From: MUSCAT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750759/aaaacbat.tel
Line Count: 115
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 NOV 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OMAN REQUEST FOR NAVAL TRAINING ASSISTANCE
TAGS: MASS, MARR, MU, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006